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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akihiro GOTO, et al.

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 12, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT ELECTRODE, MANUFACTURING METHOD
THEREOF AND DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Attorney Docket No. Q67947

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

English language abstracts Japanese Patent Application No. 8-300227 is submitted herewith and constitutes a concise statement of relevance.

Japanese Patent Application No. 5-148615 is cited and discussed on page one (1) of the above-identified application.

Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei 9-192937 discloses a surface treatment method that conducts a surface treatment by using an electrode into which powders including hydrogen material have been molded.

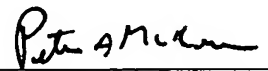
Japanese Patent Application No. Hei 10-130318 relates to a method of manufacturing a discharge surface treatment electrode in which powders are compressed and molded and then pre-sintered at 600 to 1000 °C.

Formation of hard layers on metallic material by EDM, Proceedings of ISEM12 (1998) 271-278, discloses the formation of a coating by electric discharge.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Attorney Docket No. Q67947

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

 Reg. No. 38,551



Darryl Mexic
Registration No. 23,063

DM/tmm

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	Not Yet Assigned	
			Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned	
			Filing Date	February 12, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	Akihiro GOTO	
			Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q67947

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	9-192937		7/29/97		
		JP	10-130318		5/13/01		
		JP	8-300227		11/19/96		
		JP	5-148615		6/15/93		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Formation of hard layer metallic material by EDM, Proceedings of ISEM12 (1998) 271-278	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.